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TODAY and TOMORROW

Indian Freedom

A United States delegate to the San Francisco Conference Commander Stassen said, "The question of India's independence will not come up before the San Francisco Conference."

Stassen's statement does not surprise us. No imperialism, least of all British Imperialism, will abdicate its evil power of its own accord. What makes us doubly painful is the fact that the British propagandists are constantly putting out to the world that the British would quit India this day if only Indians could achieve unity among themselves on the political problem.

Every one knows, what a blatant lie this is. The demand for India's independence is backed not only by an overwhelming majority of Hindus, not only by a substantial majority of Moslems, consisting of 45 millions of Momins, 18 millions of Shias and members of such organisations as Jaimat-ul-Ulema, but also by a majority of the Sikhs. Christians and other minorities. The percentage of Indians passionately yearning to free their country from the yoke of British tyranny is higher than that of those American colonists who courageously voted for unfurling the standard of revolt against the oppressive Britain.

In any case let us not be lulled into inactivity by the cheap optimism of a Sir Feroz Khan Noon. It is this worthy who said the other day in London that India has already become a self-governing country without many people even in England being aware of it. Now that he is in San Francisco, he is reported to have declared at an international Press Conference that he has not the least doubt that India can and will be a free country soon after the war. If he had stopped there, he would have been quite right because in East Asia and other parts of the world vast forces and resurgent masses, which spell death to alien domination are on the move. But Sir Feroz went on to say that the freedom for India will come from the British as the result of a generous reaction to the surge of national feeling in India.

Here it is where Sir Feroz Khan went wrong. We have told times without number in these columns that India freedom can never come as a gift from Britain. Britain with all her resources at her disposal will try to maintain her grip over India. Without India, Britain would find herself automatically reduced to a third-rate power. This, she will try to avoid by all means.

We stress again the fact that India's salvation can never come from Britain and America, or it can be decided at conference tables. We have to strive for our own salvation, we have to fight for it and we should be prepared to pay the price of freedom in blood.

SAN 'FRISCO SLAMS DOOR ON INDIA

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Freedom Issue Won't Be Considered At "World Security Conference"

Revealing that India cannot expect any salvation from the farce that is now being enacted at San Francisco, a Press message says that Commander Stassen, a member of the U.S. delegation, stated on Thursday that he did not believe the question of India's independence would come before the conference in any way.

Asked whether the U.S. delegation regarded this question as a domestic issue or an international one, Stassen said it was a specific matter relating to specific territory and therefore was not under consideration.

Meanwhile, another despatch from London reveals that the British Government has brought pressure to bear on the British press to suppress any important reference to the status of India which might be made at the San Francisco Conference.

A New Delhi report gives wide publicity to a statement made at an International Press conference in San Francisco on Thursday by Sir Feroze Khan Noon, one of the so-called Indian delegates. Sir Feroze Khan is reported to have declared that he has not the least doubt that India can and will be a free country soon after the war.

However, he echoed his British master's voice when he said that the only thing that is delaying this is the misunderstanding between the different parties in India. Sir Feroze Khan Noon went on to say that Mahatma Gandhi's politics are half a century out of date, and Gandhiji would be doing a great service to his country if he were to retire in favour of a younger man such as Jawaharlal Nehru.

Commenting on Sir Feroze Khan's statement, Krishna Menon, Secretary of the India League in Britain, said, leadership of the people is decided by the people and not by Feroze Khan Noon. What is Noon doing, asked Krishna Menon, to get Nehru released if he wants him to lead the Congress Party? Noon is a member of the British Government in India which is keeping Nehru in prison. In my opinion, he concluded, Noon is only making these speeches for personal benefit in the eyes of the San Francisco Conference.

Foreign Minister Togo Expresses Condolences

Tokyo, May 3 (Domei)—Foreign Minister Shigenori Togo called on the German Ambassador, Dr. Heinrich Stahmer, at the German Embassy here this afternoon to extend condolences over the death of Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler.

Lt.-Col. Shozo Nakajima

Advance Agents Of Azad Hind Fauj Active Again; India Government Panic

Indicating that the advance agents of the Azad Hind Fauj are at present very active inside India, a report from New Delhi says that the British Government in India has issued a press note stating that the civil telephone lines in the country are now liable to be tapped. It explained that private civilians, especially in seaport towns, are likely to be overheard by third persons.

In view of India's ever-increasing importance as an operational base, the press note added, it is now more than ever necessary that no information regarding the British plans and intentions should reach the enemy. It concluded with a severe warning to the people that telephone conversations will in future be officially listened to, and any person found guilty of breach of these instructions will be severely punished.

Meanwhile, according to a despatch from London, the serious outbreak of cholera which has followed in the wake of the British-created famine in the Province of Bengal, was referred to at question time in the British House of Commons on Thursday. Labour Member Sorensen, asked Leopold Amery how far Calcutta was affected and what measures were being taken by the authorities to deal with it.

As usual, Amery replied that he had no information about it. However, he added that he had asked the authorities in India to report about the matter. In reply to another question, Amery admitted that the present food situation in Malabar and northern Sirkars in Madras Province is very critical. He also admitted that a malaria epidemic is raging throughout India.

INDIAN JOURNALIST'S OPEN LETTER TO LORD WAVELL

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Denouncing Britain's evil intention towards India, Shridhar Kelkar, London correspondent of the Free Press Journal of Bombay, in an open letter addressed to Lord Wavell, said that the Indians are determined to achieve their complete liberation from the British yoke. Kelkar declared that three hundred years of British domination and exploitation is solely responsible for so much misery in India today and for the hatred of the Indians for the British.

He added that Wavell's 18 months of Viceroyalty in India has only resulted in more starvation, more suffering, more curtailment of civil liberties and more bitterness among the Indians towards the British. Declaring that British imperialism by its very nature is oppressive and degrading, Kelkar concluded his letter with a note of warning that Indians will rise against their oppressors and that Wavell will certainly face storm and fury in India.

NIPPON NATION KNOWS NOT "SURRENDER", SAYS CHIEF ARMY SPOKESMAN HERE

Glowing Tribute To Adolf Hitler & Reich People

"Reichsfuehrer Hitler met his death at his post and his courageous and gallant stand to the very last is well worthy of high admiration and praise".

Thus declared Lt.-Col. Shozo Nakajima, Chief Spokesman of the Imperial Nippon Forces in the Southern Regions, at the weekly Press Conference here yesterday in a touching reference to the passing away of the German Chancellor.

In Berlin Herr Hitler made his final stand while overwhelming enemy troops stormed from east and west, and met a gallant death on May 1. In the war-ravaged capital he stood at his post to the very last to command the German garrison and his courageous and gallant stand is well worthy of high admiration and praise, stated Lt.-Col. Nakajima.

"Herr Hitler's heroic deed will, I am sure, arouse the German people and thus they will continue to fight to the very end. Even at the present moment youthful Hitler Jugands and even girls' and women's corps are out to attack the enemy. It is stated that they are harassing the enemy's movements.

Although Berlin city is devastated in physical features, as long as the will of the German race exists we can be sure that Germany will not be extinguished and that her racial spirit will continue to live, declared the Chief Spokesman.

Death-Defying Spirit Will Ultimately Triumph In Present Global War

Referring to the battle on the Burma sector, Lt.-Col. Nakajima, Chief Spokesman of the Imperial Nippon Forces in the Southern Regions, at the weekly Press Conference here yesterday said that the enemy was now approaching close to Rangoon and that, as the military displacements had been much sparse, it could not be helped at the present juncture.

"The main objective of our strategy is to annihilate the enemy in the vicinity of Okinawa and after we crush the enemy there we will be able to bring in reinforcements to this sector.

"To attain our objective—final victory in the war—we must be prepared to undergo a lot of hardships. In future the enemy might come to Malai and Syonan but whatever the circumstances might be and however the situation might change Nippon would never surrender—she does not know the word surrender.

"Nippon people would never yield to the will of another race. We do not fear death—we fear death last among the peoples of the world", went on the Chief Spokesman, adding that he was quite convinced that Nippon was sure to win in the end.

"The enemy had been telling that Nippon forces were using rocket bombs piloted by men. These bombs were steered by the pilots right into enemy battleships and aircraft carriers," stated the Chief Spokesman, adding that the new weapon could be considered as an advance on the German V-1.

"I can confidently say that in the near future we will use many other new weapons and I am also convinced that the death-defying spirit of the people of Nippon would be the deciding factor for final victory," concluded the Spokesman.

Reichsfuehrer Hitler Died With Gun In Hand

Zurich, May 3 (Domei)—The Swiss journal "Gazette Lausanne", quoting the Hamburg Radio, yesterday reported that Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler met instant death on the afternoon of May 1 when he was struck down by a Soviet bullet as he was descending the steps of the Reich Chancellery with a gun in his hand.

'Frisco Confab Indicative Of U.S. Ambitions

Tokyo, May 3 (Domei)—Toyohiko Kagawa, noted Christian leader, in an address delivered over the radio today, pointed out that the present San Francisco Conference is indicative of the inordinate ambitions of the United States to dominate the world. He said that of the three apparent special objectives of the conference (first, to form something to take the place of the League of Nations, second, the completion of a world court, and third, the creation of an international police), the first two are nothing new to the smaller nations, but to the United States, all three of these are entirely new problems.

He added that up to date, the United States, from the standpoint of the Monroe Doctrine, has maintained her isolation policy without joining even the existing International Court, but now the Unted States has openly shown her ambition for world domination.

Referring to the so-called post-war plan of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, on which discussions at the present San Francisco Conference are based, Kagawa asserted that the plan "entirely failed to consider permanent world peace that was once dreamt of by the League of Nations. On the contrary, it predicts a world restrained by an organized military force, centralized in the great powers."

He continued, "But a nation or organizaion of nations cannot be created merely by armed forces. 'One who takes the sword shall perish by the sword'. I prophesy that until a world-wide mutual-aid organization becomes possible, any organization of an international police system will utterly fail.

Super Forts Raid Oita & Kagoshima Districts

Tokyo, May 4 (Domei)—Forty Mariana-based B-29 heavy bombers raided the Kagoshima and Oita districts at about 8.30 o'clock this morning (Friday). Earlier, shortly after midnight, eight 'super-forts' penetrated over Kobe. They left southward toward the sea after dropping bombs.

R. Hannegan Now New U.S.Postmaster-General

Lisbon, May 3 (Domei)—Robert Hannegan, Chairman of the American Democratic Party's National Committee, was yesterday appointed Postmaster-General, succeeding Frank Walker, who has tendered his resignation, according to a Washington dispatch. Hannegan will assume the new cabinet assignment on July 1.

Coco Island Bombarded By British Task Force

A Nippon Base in the Indian Ocean, May 4 (Domei)—A British task force bombarded the Great Coco Island of the Andaman Group yesterday (Thursday) morning. The enemy's ship bombardment lasted for about 30 minutes beginning 10 a.m.

America's Appalling Losses In Okinawa War; 90,000 Casualties Inflicted On Combat Personnel

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Tokyo, May 1, (Domei)—The American invasion forces in the Okinawa Islands have suffered at least 90,000 casualties in combat personnel, according to a compilation by the Mainichi Shimbun.

The paper quoted a report given by Admiral Ernest J. King, United States Chief of Naval Operations, on March 1 in which he revealed that 800 warships with 220,000 troops were used in the Iwoojima operations, while during landing operations in Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines 1,032 ships and 273,000 men were required.

The paper said since it is believed 1,400 vessels were employed in the Okinawa operations, the personnel mounts to 343,000. The journal recalled the Dai Honyei announcement on April 17 which disclosed that 393 enemy warcraft were sunk or heavily damaged. These enemy losses were followed up by nine more large enemy vessels destroyed on April 22, bringing the total to 402.

Although this figure is less than one-third of the enemy's ships, the Mainichi asserted, it is certain crushing blows were inflicted on the mainstay by the sinking of 13 aircraft-carriers and ten battleships, and a relatively few transports, oil-tankers, and repair ships.

The paper gave personnel on board each enemy warcraft roughly as follows: standard carrier 2,000; converted carrier, 1,500; battleship, 2,000; cruiser, 1,000; destroyer, 200; landing barge, 70: minesweeper, 50.

Thus, if Dai Honyei's announcements are computed on the basis of these figures for enemy ships of different categories, approximately 70,000 enemy personnel have become Father Neptune's victims up to April 17, which gave 393 enemy vessels sunk or heavily damaged, the Mainichi estimated. Including nine ships sunk thereafter, this figure mounts to 72,000 or 73,000, the paper added.

These are only enemy casualties on sea, the journal pointed out, while out of six enemy divisions, (one United States division is made up of 12,000 or 13,000 troops, bringing the total to 70,000 or 80,000) which landed on Okinawa Islands, more than 8,600 casualties had been inflicted on the enemy up to April 17.

It continued that thereafter up to April 23, 6,000 more had been killed or wounded, bringing the total to approximately 15,000 enemy casualties in ground fighting alone. Consequently, the Mainichi concluded, the aggregate total of casualties in combat personnel suffered by the enemy during the current Okinawa operations on both sea and land are placed at approximately 90,000

Squabble Over Polish Question Continuing

Lisbon, May 3 (Domei)—Soviet Foreign Commissar Viacheslav Molotov, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and American Secretary of State Edward Stettinius today met again in San Francisco in an attempt to thrash out their differences concerning the status of the Russian-sponsored Polish Government, according to a San Francisco dispatch.

The Anglo-American Foreign Ministers, it is understood, are prevailing upon Molotov to accept the inclusion of a number of leaders of the London Polish Regime in the Soviet-sponsored Polish Government as one of the conditions for Anglo-American recognition of the Warsaw Regime.

Enemy Forces On Tarakan Pounded; 3 Warcraft Sunk

Tokyo, May 4 (Domei)—Nippon shore batteries on Tarakan Island yesterday, May 3, frustrated an attempt by enemy warcraft to approach the shore to aid enemy landing forces by ship bombardment. Three small enemy warcraft were sunk, while the remainder of the enemy fleet, comprising cruisers and destroyers, was driven away from the shore during this attack which followed up the previous day's assault.

Meanwhile on the ground our forces on Tarakan are fiercely pounding a powerful enemy force which attempted to infiltrate into our positions under support of tanks, driving the enemy back toward the shore. Fierce fighting is now raging on the island between our forces and the enemy following reinforcement of the enemy's naval strength.

Kesselring's Forces In Italy Continue Fighting

Zurich, May 4 (Domei)—With the surrender of Hamburg to the British Second Army, Anglo-American and Soviet forces in the north are reported about to effect a junction on a wide front. In Northern Italy, German troops are obeying Field-Marshal Albert Kesselring's orders to fight, and are not including themselves within the scope of Italian surrender, Marshal Yarrow, Reuter's correspondent reported from General Dwight Eisenhower's headquarters.

French forces driving ten miles south from Lake Constance are meeting concrete fortifications which are being stoutly defended by German troops.

On the Seventh Army front German defenders of Innsbruck have refused terms of surrender, according to Reuter's correspondent. Reich forces are still holding Bohemia and Moravia and the mountainous districts in Eastern Austria and North-Western Yugoslavia against the advancing enemy but Prague has been declared a "hospital" city by the German authorities.

The four major German cities of Dresden, Breslau, Chemnitz, and Kiel are still firmly under German control.

Auchinleck To Confer With British Officials

Lisbon, May 4 (Domei)—General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in India, has arrived in London to hold consultations with government leaders, according to a Reuter dispatch.

It is generally believed that his visit is connected with the talks on India now taking place between visiting Indian Viceroy Lord Wavell and members of the British Government.

Flag Of Freedom Flies Unmolested Over Indonesia

Pointing out that a big stride has been made towards the goal of independence of the Indonesian people, Lt.-Col. Nakajima, Chief Spokesman of the Imperial Nippon Forces in the Southern Regions, at the weekly Press Conference here yesterday said that a new flag of independence has been made and is now flying all over the land of Java and Sumatra.

"This is a matter for great jubilation for all of us Asiatics", went on the Chief Spokesman, adding that it is very necessary for the people of Indonesia to keep a firm and resolute mind. Although they may be hit by the enemy they should not be overcome by the enemy's blows.

"I firmly believe that as long as the people of Indonesia resolutely hold on to their slogan of independence their cherished ambition of attaining independence will be realised", stated Lt.-Col. Nakajima quoting the well-known maxim, "Fortitude is the price you pay for glory."

"I also believe that all the people of Indonesia will learn the death-defying spirit of Nippon and would continue to keep their spirit of independence and if they would fight with that spirit I am certain that the day of independence and final victory would be attained this year," concluded Lt.-Col. Nakajima.

America Denies Soviet Charges On Prisoners

Lisbon, May 3 (Domei)—The American State Department today described as "unfounded" the recent charge made by General Golikov, Commissioner for Repatriation of Soviet Prisoners of War that the American military authorities are detaining Soviet prisoners of war under "impossible conditions" according to a Washington dispatch. The State Department's statement maintains strongly that American officers, charged with work related to liberated anti-Axis prisoners, are acting "within the letter and spirit of the Yalta Agreement."

In reply to the specific Soviet charge that 800 Red Army officers are being concealed from the Soviet authorities, the State Department declared: "The United States authorities have no knowledge of the alleged presence of these officers in the United States."

4 More Warcraft Sunk, Damaged Off Okinawa

A Nippon Base in the Okinawa Sector, May 4 (Domei)—Nippon air units continuing their relentless attacks against enemy surface units in waters around Okinawa Island, accounted for four more enemy warcraft sunk or heavily damaged, at dusk on Thursday, May 3. Death-defying airmen of our famed Special Attack Corps participated in this attack.

One enemy cruiser was observed from our shore position to have been hit and heavily damaged by one of our attacking planes. In addition, one enemy destroyer and a minesweeper were also hit and sunk by our attackers. In the course of the same attack, our troops were thrilled to witness another enemy cruiser squarely hit by our aircraft and sunk instantaneously off Kita airfield on Okinawa Island.

A Nippon Base in the Southern Regions, May 2 (Domei)—Due to the consecutive blows our special air and surface attack units are dealing on the enemy task forces in Okinawa waters, his strength is gradually and steadily decreasing.

In the middle part of April, seven groups of enemy task forces, including the British fleet, were observed operating in Okinawa waters. Since then, the enemy strength has decreased to four groups of task forces, mainstayed by a total of more than ten aircraft-carriers, including auxiliary carriers,

A foreign dispatch, disclosing that the anti-Axis forces are mobilizing even obsolete warcraft of France, Italy and the Netherlands, indicates that the enemy is frantically attempting to make up for his dwindling strength.

OBITUARY

Mr. A. T. Arumugam of 194, Bukit Timah Road passed away peacefully at Chuo Byoin on 4-5-2605. The date of funeral will be announced later.

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